

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE GOVERNING BODY
CITY OF GARDNER, KANSAS

Page No. 2021 – 37

April 5, 2021

The City Council of the City of Gardner, Kansas met in regular session on April 5, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Gardner City Hall, 120 East Main Street, Gardner, Kansas, with the Mayor Steve Shute presiding. Present were Councilmembers Todd Winters, Mark Baldwin, Kacy Deaton, Randy Gregorcyk, and Tory Roberts. City staff present were City Administrator James Pruetting; Deputy City Administrator Amy Nasta; Finance Director Matthew Wolff; Police Chief James Belcher; Utilities Director Gonzalo Garcia; Parks and Recreation Director Jason Bruce; Community Development Director David Knopick; Public Works Director Kellen Headlee; City Attorney Ryan Denk; and City Clerk Sharon Rose. Others present included those listed on the sign-in sheet and others who did not sign in.

CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum of Councilmembers present, Mayor Shute called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Shute led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Proclaim the month of April as Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month in the City of Gardner, Kansas

Mayor Shute read into record a proclamation that the month of April be known as Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month in the City of Gardner, Kansas.

Sawyer Hinck accepted the proclamation and thanked his friends and family for their support.

2. Johnson County Commissioner Shirley Allenbrand

BOCC Commissioner Shirley Allenbrand was not in attendance.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No members of the public came forward.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Standing approval of the minutes as written for the regular meeting on March 15, 2021**
- 2. Standing approval of City expenditures prepared March 8, 2021 in the amount of \$2,504,767.19; March 12, 2021 in the amount of \$421,773.07; March 18, 2021 in the amount of \$1,498,024.04; March 19, 2021 in the amount of \$204,226.39; and March 26, 2021 in the amount of 471,350.66**
- 3. Consider approving the City's contribution to health insurance premiums for the 2021-2022 plan year**
- 4. Consider authorizing the execution of Change Order #1 for the extension of the Prairie Trace East Sewer Interceptor project**
- 5. Consider authorizing an agreement with Charter Communications Operating, LLC for 500Mbps fiber internet service for Gardner City Hall**
- 6. Consider authorizing the execution of a contract extension with BHC Rhodes for construction observation services at Tuscan Farms**
- 7. Consider executing an agreement between WaterOne, Grata, and Gardner associated with the Prairie Trace waterline extension project**
- 8. Consider authorizing the execution of a contract with Gardner Disposal, Inc. for the 2021 City-Wide Clean Up**

Councilmember Winters Asked to remove items 7-8 from the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Gregorcyk Asked to remove item 5 from the Consent Agenda.

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNING BODY
CITY OF GARDNER, KANSAS**

Page No. 2021 - 38
April 5, 2021

Councilmember Baldwin made a motion to approve items 1–4 and 6 on the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Deaton Seconded.

With all of the Councilmembers voting in favor of the motion, the motion carried.

Discussion of Consent Agenda Item 5, Consider authorizing an agreement with Charter Communications Operating, LLC for 500Mbps fiber internet service for Gardner City Hall

Councilmember Gregorcyk wanted to ensure that the city is saving money with this move and receiving better service. City Administrator Pruetting confirmed. The city has had a contract with CenturyLink for several years. The contract is set to expire. Staff considered providers with the capacity to serve the city, which are CenturyLink and Spectrum. Through informal bidding, they are getting better service, quality service at a reduced price. Gregorcyk asked if CenturyLink bid on this. Pruetting said they did not bid. This is not new service; this is replacing the existing service.

Councilmember Gregorcyk made a motion to approve Consent Agenda item 5, authorize the City Administrator to enter into a five-year agreement with Charter Communications Operating, LLC for 500Mbps fiber internet service for Gardner City Hall at a cost of \$950 per month.

Councilmember Deaton Seconded.

With all of the Councilmembers voting in favor of the motion, the motion carried.

Discussion of Consent Agenda Item 7, Consider executing an agreement between WaterOne, Grata, and Gardner associated with the Prairie Trace waterline extension project

Councilmember Winters asked for a brief summary of the expense. Winters also noted that WaterOne will “retain full ownership of the main extension, fire hydrants, and other appurtenances” and asked if that was typical that the city pays for it and installs it and WaterOne gets ownership. City Administrator Pruetting said yes, WaterOne has the territory, by state statute they have exclusive rights. Staff asked if they would either sell or swap that territory and they were not interested. The city had previously done a water study with WaterOne and RWD7 on an interconnection. With that study, they had some preliminary design and costs, and that's why they estimated closely what the cost would be. The city taking on the cost was part of the development agreement to encourage Grata to Gardner. It gives the city the opportunity to expand tax base and other enhancements like retail, restaurants, entertainment options. Councilmember Gregorcyk said the estimated tax value is \$260 Million, so the return on investment is more than where they want to be. The agreements are state statute. Pruetting said there will be some cost recovery through benefit districts.

Councilmember Winters made a motion to approve Consent Agenda item 7, authorize the Mayor to execute an Inter-Governmental and Private Party Agreement between WaterOne, Grata Development, LLC and City of Gardner associated with the Prairie Trace waterline extension for an estimated cost of \$1,584,448.72.

Councilmember Baldwin Seconded.

With all of the Councilmembers voting in favor of the motion, the motion carried.

Discussion of Consent Agenda Item 8, Consider authorizing the execution of a contract with Gardner Disposal, Inc. for the 2021 City-Wide Clean Up

Councilmember Winters is in favor of this, but there are a lot of questions on the changes and restrictions. City Administrator Pruetting said prior to canceling the program last year, the estimate was that it would likely cost more than \$100,000. Staff put restrictions on it, and Gardner Disposal said without those restrictions, they wouldn't have bid. The cost has gone up 600-700% since the program started. Gardner Disposal has a program where customers can call individually for large item pick up at a cost, like \$55 for an appliance, \$25 for a mattress. Residents can do this on their own. Staff had to limit the program to ensure they wouldn't go over \$100,000.

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNING BODY
CITY OF GARDNER, KANSAS**

Page No. 2021 - 39

April 5, 2021

Winters said it wouldn't limit most people. Most only have a few items. Pruetting said the limit is 4 items per household. Winters asked if this would take place in one day. Pruetting said it would take place over two weekends, north and south. Councilmember Deaton clarified there would be one weekend in between the two dates. Pruetting said it was requested in May, following the garage sale weekend. Mayor Shute said the tradition of this program is established, but it's becoming very expensive. This is what they need to do to keep the costs down. As Pruetting noted, without those restrictions they wouldn't have had any bidders. Councilmember Baldwin asked if Gardner Disposal had a minimum. Pruetting said \$40,000 is minimum. Public Works Director Headlee said the bid form guaranteed at least 200 tons. Baldwin said it's gone up exponentially. In 2019, it was 342 tons. There won't be less tonnage two years later, with people being home because of COVID and after the garage sale. The number won't be less than the max they authorize. People note this as not spending tax dollars wisely; it doesn't benefit everyone. Everyone could use it, but some won't. Those who won't are subsidizing others' trash pickup. He supports moving to a ticket system. The city can negotiate number of homes and rates with Gardner Disposal, charge the household an amount, and they get a ticket to put on their garbage. People that want to use the service would benefit from the city-negotiated rate, but no use of tax dollars and no one is subsidizing someone else. Pruetting noted there is no max on this year's event, they won't know until it's over and everything is weighed. There has never been a max. Councilmember Gregorcyk said putting in measures is prudent. He estimates 1/3 of the residents put out bulky items. A ticketing system and nominal fee would drive down the participation and control costs. This would be a way to regulate it and they can reassess in outlying years. Pruetting said they would have to send this back out for bid and there would be an administrative burden. Winters supports doing it the way it's proposed this year and then plan something different for next year. Councilmember Roberts said it's hard to communicate. Even with tickets, people would still put trash out. Deaton said there's a limited list of what's allowed, but that doesn't mean everyone follows it. It's not up to collectors to police it. If someone puts out 5 items, they'll pick up 5 items. Roberts said if they are only supposed to pick up 4 items, they will only pick up 4 items. Pruetting said going to specific addresses would be burdensome. Baldwin said there wouldn't be extra burden. If they drive down a street and see trash, they check for tickets and pick up. Deaton said if residents bought tickets, they could submit with their address so the company could plan. Gregorcyk said the administrative burden is less than what the city will spend. Shute asked if they want to keep it the way it is for this year. They are a month out. Gregorcyk asked if the date is firm. Baldwin said they can discuss and move it to a later date. Historically it's been after the garage sales. Roberts said it may depend on staffing of Gardner Disposal. They have tentatively planned to have a set number of trucks and staff. Baldwin said if they don't want to bid it, they won't bid. Shute said there's concern that if they make these changes, there won't be any bidders. Roberts would keep it as it's presented for this year. Winters agreed. He receives a lot of positive feedback on this. There were a lot of unhappy people when it was canceled last year. Deaton is concerned with not having a maximum. Roberts noted they've approved other items not in the budget. Baldwin said not open-ended, they all have not-to-exceed numbers. Deaton said they can't set a not-to-exceed number because they could pick up the south side and hit the number. Baldwin said they could monitor tonnage as they go to the landfill and stop when they are close to the maximum, but then some may not get picked up. That's why he proposed the ticket system. Shute said there isn't time to put that in place this year. Gregorcyk said it's hard to support no maximum with taxpayer dollars, when they spent almost \$1 Million for electric 4 months ago. Shute said it comes out of different funds. Shute asked for consensus to table this and come back with options. Gregorcyk supports the ticket idea. Pruetting said staff can work with Gardner Disposal and see what they are and are not willing to do. He asked if they are looking to completely offset cost with tickets. Baldwin supports that. Gregorcyk doesn't need a 100% cost recoup, but there should be some cost offset. Winters wants to see the numbers. Shute said bulk rate is a negotiated rate on bulk pick-up for everyone. Pruetting said an option could be to discount the price of individual items. If it's a one-day event, they may discount individual items and when residents buy a ticket, they can write down what it's supposed to be before they put it on. Baldwin said it needs to benefit residents and the business. What does it take for Gardner Disposal to do this job? What number do they need to see to be worth it? Based on that number, the city can look at pricing. Residents could submit if they will be in the pick-up for the ticket process and they would know how much per person that would cost and compare to the normal rate. Shute said what if Gardner Disposal said to get the bulk rate the city would need to guarantee the first \$40,000, is that acceptable? Baldwin said it depends on the number of tickets sold. Shute said the city would backstop the first \$40,000 no

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNING BODY
CITY OF GARDNER, KANSAS**

Page No. 2021 - 40

April 5, 2021

matter how many tickets are sold. Baldwin said they could advertise for two weeks and see how many tickets are sold. They can set it based on the rate they want to charge people. Gardner Disposal will get their fee regardless if they collect it from residents or the city pays it. Winters can see 50 people signing up if they are paying a portion. Baldwin said then they will see how many they are subsidizing. Gregorcyk said the data they get from this would tell them how good the program is. The service is provided with good intentions, but there is no data to understand if they need to provide it. There may be other services they could provide that benefit a greater portion of the population.

Councilmember Gregorcyk made a motion to table Consent Agenda item 8, authorize the execution of a contract with Gardner Disposal, Inc. for the 2021 City-wide Clean Up for a guaranteed total of \$40,000.00 and authorize the City Administrator to approve additional costs at \$200.00 per ton based on actual tonnage collected.

Councilmember Baldwin Seconded.

With all of the Councilmembers voting in favor of the motion, the motion carried.

PLANNING & ZONING CONSENT AGENDA

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider accepting a voluntary annexation with landowner consent

Community Development Director David Knopick said staff received a petition from a property owner. It's just west of the Hilltop Ridge development. Utilities are going in now. The reason for the request is that the individual may want to tie into utilities when they become available, and they will need to be within city limits.

Councilmember Deaton made a motion to accept the voluntary consent annexation request of Shawn Hatton and adopt an ordinance annexing land to the City of Gardner, Kansas.

Councilmember Winters Seconded.

With all of the Councilmembers voting in favor of the motion, the Ordinance passed and was assigned Ordinance number 2696.

Winters:	Yes
Gregorcyk:	Yes
Roberts:	Yes
Baldwin:	Yes
Deaton:	Yes

2. Consider adopting an ordinance amending section 9.20.020(A) of the Gardner Municipal Code relating to exemptions to open burn permits

City Administrator Jim Pruetting received an email from a resident regarding the prohibition of burning on Sundays and holidays. Fire Chief Kirk said it has been on the books in Gardner for 40-50 years. Gardner is an outlier and the fire district had a special permit just for the city because of this. Chief Kirk recommended the code be changed and allow burning on Sundays and holidays. There is no practical reason for the prohibition to continue.

Councilmember Gregorcyk appreciated Pruetting reaching out to Chief Kirk. He asked if they would still have a burn permit and go through the process. Pruetting confirmed; it would go through the fire department.

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNING BODY
CITY OF GARDNER, KANSAS**

Page No. 2021 - 41
April 5, 2021

Councilmember Roberts appreciated the prompt attention and getting this fixed. Mayor Shute said most didn't realize there was a prohibition.

Councilmember Gregorcyk made a motion to adopt an ordinance amending section 9.20.020 of the Gardner Municipal Code relating to the exemption to open burning prohibitions.

Councilmember Baldwin Seconded.

With all of the Councilmembers voting in favor of the motion, the Ordinance passed and was assigned Ordinance number 2697.

Gregorcyk:	Yes
Roberts:	Yes
Baldwin:	Yes
Deaton:	Yes
Winters:	Yes

COUNCIL UPDATES

Community Development Director Knopick said they have an EDAC meeting next Wednesday at the Justice Center. He noted he is out of office for the remainder of the week.

Shute asked Parks Director Bruce about pool opening in May. Bruce said they hope to open in some form, but still working on details. Staff are working with other area agencies and the county on opening safely.

Utilities Director Garcia said the Hillsdale expansion is completing construction of most of the components. They should have substantial completion by the end of May. They have an eminent domain hearing for the Prairie Trace force main scheduled for Wednesday.

City Attorney Denk said he was absent last meeting. There was discussion on elections and charter ordinance. He received the minutes from the city clerk. He noted three options, as he understood. The first one is to serve out term of the individual to whose position one is appointed. The second option is to serve until next general election. The third option was special election discussion. Denk has concerns about the special election option, as it could be exceedingly confusing for voters. There would be people running for two-year terms, others for four-year terms. They don't have the ability to state that someone could not file for both a two-year and a four-year term, because qualifications for office are prescribed by state statute. The easiest and most straightforward is the way they've been doing it. Option 1 and 2 are viable. Option 2 is a policy decision regarding staggered tenures. Mayor Shute said in order to have staggered terms, the seat is treated differently than other seats. If someone is serving 18 months and be up for election for a four-year term because the others are four years, now there's no staggering. They could have four members of the council on one election cycle. It destroys the spirit of staggering. Denk noted that if they go with option 1, the stagger stays in place. Denk asked for clarification that when referring to a special election, they aren't referring to calling an election at a time other than the general election. It would just be early for that term. Shute confirmed, it would only be special because it is for two years. The other positions would be four year, but to keep staggering, that particular seat would be two years. Councilmember Baldwin supports leaving it as it is; it keeps the staggering. Councilmember Winters agreed. Councilmember Gregorcyk said the community deserves to elect their officials versus an appointment. Shute said they either have staggering maintained through serving out the term, or they have a special election and consider that seat separately from the other seats up for regular election. Gregorcyk said they would serve until the next general. Shute said no; if they serve until the next general, they break the staggering. Denk said there's an assumption that the person who was appointed will run for election, but that's not required. Three people could file for the two-year term and the same three people could file for the four-year term. Qualifications for office are set by state statute. Shute said state statute allows them to run for more than one seat. Councilmember Deaton said they could run for both and still have a potential appointment. If they win both seats, and they choose the four years, then council still appoints someone for the two-year term. Baldwin asked if they could home-rule out of running for two offices. Deaton asked how often do people leave before halfway through their term? Councilmember Roberts

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNING BODY
CITY OF GARDNER, KANSAS**

Page No. 2021 - 42

April 5, 2021

noted they had 4 appointments in 2011, so it has happened. Deaton clarified they were before the halfway mark. Shute said two of them were. It happens frequently in Gardner. Denk said it happens everywhere. Shute said most municipalities follow serving out the rest of the term. Roberts supports serving to the next general election. She doesn't believe they need to stagger. It's what they've always done, but why? Shute said they don't want complete turnover of council in one election. Roberts said the people running should have done research and know what is happening. As long as good qualified people run, which normally happens, she doesn't know why they need to stagger. Baldwin said as the only city in the county that's had a successful recall election, there's concern. Shute said he supports continuity, and if everyone is up for election in one cycle, there's no continuity and creates uncertainty. Shute asked for consensus. Baldwin and Winters support leaving it as is with staggering. Gregorcyk wants to look at it down the road, but leave it as is. City Administrator Pruetting asked if they want staff to clarify the 'as is', because there was confusion. Shute confirmed, and asked for examples of other municipalities to see how they manage it.

City Administrator Pruetting said staff is working on CIP and budget. There was discussion about doing a work session on CIP to focus on the wastewater solution. Staff has had discussions with KDHE and GBA. They have done the anti-degradation study, went through potential designs for a wastewater plant on the south side, and KDHE limited the size and ability to introduce additional nutrients into the Hillsdale watershed. That solution is no longer feasible. They need to consider additional options, like do they build on the south side, where KDHE asked them to pump the effluent 5 miles east to Sweetwater. That's not a feasible option. Limiting the size of the plant to 750,000 gallons with no potential to expand in the future is no good. To expand Kill Creek for future needs in the next 10-15 years, they will need to install parallel lines and other things. They are revisiting all options and excluding the Hillsdale watershed as an option. Instead of doing a work session on CIP, Finance Director Wolff will give a presentation at the next meeting. Pruetting continued, stating that he and Director Knopick met with Lime Scooters and the mayor was approached by Bird Scooters. Before they get to proposals and start using staff time for permitting and licensing, Pruetting requested feedback from council. Shute noted they are seeking permits and no subsidy from the city. Pruetting confirmed. He noted that for a city of this size, having two operators is problematic. They would need to put out an RFP. Councilmember Winters doesn't see the need. It's premature until they see downtown redevelopment and start proceeding with that. Councilmember Roberts said the streets aren't good for this right now; they aren't set up for it. Councilmember Deaton said there isn't downtown parking. In many areas, there are downtown parking areas, and then people can grab a bike or scooter and travel around. They don't have parking downtown. Councilmember Baldwin said they don't have a group of citizens requesting this business; it's premature. Shute asked if they need a regulation that would prohibit this for now. Pruetting said they have changed their business model. Early on, they would put them in the city and not say anything. They have evolved from that practice. Councilmember Gregorcyk noted he used them in San Diego, but it was in a downtown area and he was traveling to a downtown district. He agreed with Winters; it's premature for this community. They don't have the infrastructure that would promote and support that market. They don't have the attractions that would support it. Pruetting said if they are allowed on trails and sidewalks, it diminishes the walkability that the city is trying to establish. Gregorcyk noted concerns about safety. City Attorney Denk said municipalities he's worked with don't allow them on sidewalks because of speed. JCPRD started a program allowing e-bikes on hike-and-bike trails but not scooters. The UPOC now states that cities are permitted to prohibit these types of scooters on the operation on their streets. The state statute was amended last year, in anticipation of this. Shute asked if they wanted to prohibit for now until they look at the downtown plan. He noted there's consensus that the city is not ready. Baldwin said they are no longer dropping them off, there's no need to put a law in place. Shute noted there's clear direction from council.

Mayor Shute clarified a statement from last meeting regarding the discussion on fire district appointments. Shute mistakenly said he spoke with Edgerton Mayor Don Roberts. Shute did not speak with Roberts on it; he spoke with Commissioner Allenbrand. She had told Shute that Mayor Roberts spoke with her on this issue. Shute told Mayor Roberts he would make the clarification and correction on the record.

Councilmember Gregorcyk appreciated Mayor Shute for pointing that out. Gregorcyk asked what was the Q4 2020 and the Q1 2021 transient guest tax revenue. What are the contributions of the revenue stream? Shute

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNING BODY
CITY OF GARDNER, KANSAS**

Page No. 2021 - 43

April 5, 2021

requested that staff summarize that in the Friday Minute Memo. Gregorcyk referenced the Friday Minute Memo from the previous Friday regarding an update from Pruetting. The subcommittee met and two primary options were discussed to mitigate that impact were the use of the electric fund to offset part or all the additional power cost and spreading the cost adjustment over a longer period. Gregorcyk's math showed this would equate to \$20-\$30. Was there any other discussion from that meeting they could share to the community? He noted the number aren't in, and there are credits and lawsuits. Pruetting said they looked at what they considered a manageable PCA increase. People who may have difficulty with that have services available to help them pay for their utilities. This year, the city increased its contribution from \$15,000 to \$25,000. There are still funds available. Through Gardner, Johnson Co., and the state, there is access to substantial subsidies for utilities. If those funds are depleted, it would be a better use of city funds to supplement that fund to help people that are in need. This is part of a bigger discussion about the utility infrastructure. The electric fund is large, but there are things in the future that are going to be expensive, particularly with wastewater. They may potentially offset that with lowering electric rates to spend down that fund and offset some increase that they will need on sewer rates. Doing this and depleting the fund now while the increases are manageable seems premature. Gregorcyk believes the electric fund should have a balance necessary to support the electric department. He also believes they only spend a portion of the pilot payment in lieu of taxes on other utilities. They don't want to deplete the fund just because it's there. It is a savings account for catastrophic situations. He would support reducing the electric rates supplementing a portion of the electric fund in order for taxpayers to not have 100% of the burden based on growth or preventive maintenance needed. Pruetting noted the sustainability of utility infrastructure is not just dependent on the expansion on the east side of the highway; there are needs now with Kill Creek. They are not just spending money on the east side. To be financially responsible with utility funds, they need to look at what ratepayers pay in the aggregate. Rates will fluctuate with improvements, but if they can keep it as close to where they are now, they will be in better shape. Mayor Shute said there is flexibility on the electric rates. Wastewater doesn't make money, but is a need. Councilmember Winters asked if there is a way to individually allow people to extend the time to pay back the PCA. The all-electric houses are substantial, can they individually spread it out over two years? Shute said they are making individualized payment arrangements with everyone. Councilmember Baldwin noted that no one is being shut off and everyone is eligible for the level payment plan to spread it over 12 months. He also noted that 80% of the community are gas users, and the gas bills are going to be high, so it's not just all-electric users in this situation. Shute noted that there are lawsuits involving gas providers.

Councilmember Baldwin thanked Director Garcia and the line maintenance staff for looking into a potential issue recently and providing great service.

Mayor Shute noted the letting schedule for US56 construction, is there a hard date for starting this project? Director Headlee doesn't have a date, but can look into it. Pruetting said they knew about the letting in June and construction would start in July. Construction should take a year for completion. Shute noted they won't be able to pour concrete over winter. Councilmember Gregorcyk asked if it was pushed back or not. Pruetting said the original letting date was November, and then it got moved to the spring, and then the local manager said the original timeline wasn't realistic and that's why it was moved to June. Shute wants to make sure they stay to that date. Shute noted he received an email from Missy Brown regarding Project Grad. COVID-19 has suppressed donations to the program. It's important for the seniors to have that fun and safe evening. She is seeking additional donations from the city. Shute said there is money in the mayor/council donations budget, and they could give \$2,000 if there was consensus. Gregorcyk asked how much they donated in the past. Finance Director Wolff said they usually give \$1500-\$2000. Roberts asked if they spend down that budget every year. She would be open to donating more than \$2,000 if the budget could support it. Wolff confirmed they donated \$1500 last year. Gregorcyk said the kids have had a rough year. Roberts would support a donation of \$3,000. Councilmember Baldwin doesn't support any donation. It is not his position to specify for the residents whether they want to donate to any charitable cause. Shute asked for the fund balance; Wolff noted the specific line item ended in 2020. Shute said there is a line item for general donations and support. Gregorcyk asked if this was part of the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund. Shute clarified no. Baldwin said this is taxpayer money. Shute will get the information and share it. Shute noted a photo everyone received from Rachel Kehl at 16281 Kill Creek Rd. The photo is of a tornado siren right outside their door next to their house, and it leans over their house. They are

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNING BODY
CITY OF GARDNER, KANSAS**

Page No. 2021 - 44

April 5, 2021

asking for it to be relocated so that it's not so loud in their home. Shute said it would cost \$4500 to relocate it. Gregorcyk asked where it would be relocated. Pruetting said Blue Valley Public Safety manages the program. There are some locations identified that would have to be processed through BVPS. It costs BVPS \$4500 to move the equipment. The equipment is the city's, but they have to move it and certify it. Director Garcia said the city would move the pole. Gregorcyk asked if there are any other examples in new or existing. Pruetting reviewed locations of the sirens. They are typically in proximity to residential areas, but this one is particularly close. This one is on the front, and they are usually at the backs of houses. Gregorcyk noted he does not oppose this but expressed concern for setting a precedence. Pruetting said this is the closest one he found, and the only one right in front of someone's home. Roberts asked if this was because the pole was there before housing was built. Pruetting confirmed, and said the homeowner was told it would be moved when the new school went in. That was 5 years ago. Shute noted they are usually in the right-of-way, but this is leaning over into the yard. Gregorcyk asked if they are cognizant of this as new subdivisions are planned and work with developers. Pruetting confirmed. He said they have great coverage in the city. This is the furthest one north and west. Shute said more will be going in with additional development. Baldwin asked if they can get a map from BVPS showing the intended coverage of that siren. Pruetting said it's available online. Baldwin asked if they moved it up to city property to the north, would it still cover the people to the south of the extended range. Gregorcyk asked how much is the coverage. Pruetting said there is significant overlap throughout the city. Police Chief Belcher said the coverages may be up to a mile. Gregorcyk noted they would need to make sure the new location is within the current coverage. He asked how soon they could do it. Pruetting said they will contact BVPS and coordinate. Shute said there's consensus to move forward with the relocation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, on a motion duly made by Councilmember Deaton and seconded by Councilmember Winters the meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

City Clerk